

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 OMB-01 /072 W
-----123673 100410Z /63

R 091425Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4900
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 5540

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NO, UR
SUBJECT: REPORTS OF NORDLI-KOSYGIN CONVERSATION

1. THE OSLO PRESS ON DEC 9 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO REPORTED CONVERSATION BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER NORDLI AND SOVIET PRIME MINISTER KOSYGIN. THE CONVERSATION WHICH TOOK PLACE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NORDIC MINISTERS' MEETING REPORTEDLY COVERS KOSYGIN'S NEGATIVE VIEWS OF NORWEGIAN SECURITY POLICY. THE DANISH AND SWEDISH PRIME MINISTERS WERE ALSO REPORTED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE CONVERSATION. NORDLI IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT KOSYGIN HAD EXPRESSED DISAPPROVAL OF NORWEGIAN SECURITY POLICY. NORDLI IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE TOLD KOSYGIN THAT, SINCE THE VIKING AGE, NORWAY HAS ONLY USED ARMS AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE THREATENED ITS SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS DECLINED TO GO INTO DETAIL ON THE MATTER, TELLING NEWMEN SINCE THERE WERE NO MINUTES OF THE MEETING AND SINCE THE MEETING HAD BEEN CONDUCTED THROUGH INTERPRETERS IN A NOISY AND CROWDED ROOM HE WAS IN NO POSITION TO BE SPECIFIC.

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2. NORDLI DID STATE THAT KOSYGIN HAD NOT BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT OF NORWEGIAN BASE POLICY. HE ALSO DENIED THAT THE MEETING HAD BEEN "HECTIC" AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS.

3. NRK RADIO CARRIED DANISH PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN'S RECORDED COMMENTS ON

THE MEETING ON DECEMBER 9. THE LATTER STATED THAT THE MEETING HAD BEEN HECTIC AND THAT HE HAD HAD TO CALM KOSYGIN DOWN. JORGENSEN STATED THAT KOSYGIN WAS EVIDENTLY NOT PLEASED WITH THE NORWEGIANS, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO MILITARY MANEUVERS IN THE NORTH.

4. IN A DECEMBER 8 CONVERSATION, A FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT MFA'S SOMEWHAT INCOMPLETE REPORTS OF THE MEETING INDICATED A LESS DRAMATIC SITUATION THAN THE PRESS HAD REPORTED. FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS STATED THAT MINISTER FRYDENLUND HAD REPORTED THAT KOSYGIN HAD SAID NOTHING NEW OR DIFFERENT AT THIS MEETING. HE DID, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT KOSYGIN HAD BECOME RATHER EXCITED AND HAD HAD TO BE CALMED DOWN BY ONE OF THE OTHER MINISTERS. ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE (ON DEC 8) THERE WERE NO NEW MESSAGES FROM MOSCOW.

5. IN A DEC 9 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, THE SAME MINISTRY OFFICIAL EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE AT THE TONE AND CONTENT OF THE NEWS REPORTS OF NORDLI'S CONVERSATION WITH KOSYGIN. HE SAID THAT THEY WERE AT VARIANCE WITH THE MINISTRY'S REPORTS BUT ADDED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE RETURN FROM BRUSSELS OF FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND, WHO HAD BEEN PRESENT AT THE CONVERSATION, IN ORDER TO GET A VALID READING OF THE MATTER.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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